



Proposed Fishing Regulation Changes – 2016 Madison River Proposal

Clarification: The 2016 regulation proposal submitted to the Commission on August 6, 2015 and approved for further public comment now, includes entries concerning the Madison River at two locations: page 16 and page 44. It is brought to our attention that the two entries, showing different aspects of the proposed changes, are difficult to understand overall. To help, we present what the full Madison River regulation exceptions would look like if adopted as proposed in 2016 (page 1). We have also included the current regulations for comparison (Page 2) and an additional copy showing specific changes to the 2015 regulations that yield the proposal for 2016 (Page 3).

CENTRAL DISTRICT – Region 3

Madison River regulations as they would appear in the 2016 Regulation booklet if the current proposal is adopted:

MADISON RIVER

Yellowstone National Park boundary to Hebgen Reservoir

- Catch-and-Release for rainbow trout, except anglers 14 years of age and younger may take 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout: 5 brown trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

Hebgen Dam to Ennis Reservoir

- Artificial lures only.
- *Combined Trout: 1 Daily and in possession, any size. .*

Quake Lake outlet to Lyons Bridge

- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels

Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake

- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels

Ennis Dam to the mouth

- Northern Pike: No limit.

RATIONALE: These regulation changes greatly simplify the Madison River fishing regulations.

Compare to current fishing regulations for the Madison River, found at Page 62 of the 2015 Montana Fishing Regulations booklet:

MADISON RIVER

Yellowstone National Park boundary to Hebgen Reservoir

- Catch-and-Release for rainbow trout, except anglers 14 years of age *or* ~~and~~ younger may
 - Take 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Combined Trout: 5 brown trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

Hebgen Dam to Quake Lake

- Open entire year.

Quake Lake outlet to Lyons Bridge

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Artificial lures only.
- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels.

Lyons Bridge to McAtee Bridge

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Artificial lures only.

McAtee Bridge to Varney Bridge

Open entire year.

- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Artificial lures only. [Not listed here, but still in effect from Hebgen Dam to Ennis Lake]

Varney Bridge to Ennis Bridge

- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age *or* and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.

Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake

- Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.
- Catch-and-release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.
- Closed to fishing from boats/vessels

Ennis Dam to the mouth

- Open entire year.
- Northern Pike: No limit.

The proposal for 2016 involves these changes to the current regulations for the Madison River:

MADISON RIVER

~~Yellowstone National Park boundary to Hebgen Reservoir~~ (NO CHANGE)

~~Catch-and-Release for rainbow trout, except anglers 14 years of age or and younger may~~

~~Take 1 rainbow trout daily and in possession, any size.~~

~~Combined Trout: 5 brown trout daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.~~

~~Hebgen Dam to Quake Lake~~ (DELETED)

~~Open entire year.~~ [No need to list it here, but still open the entire year]

~~Quake Lake outlet to Lyons Bridge~~ (MODIFIED)

~~Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.~~

~~Catch and release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.~~

~~Artificial lures only.~~ [Not listed here, but still in effect from Hebgen Dam to Ennis Lake]

~~Closed to fishing from boats/vessels.~~

~~Lyons Bridge to McAtee Bridge~~ (DELETED)

~~Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.~~

~~Catch and release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.~~

~~Artificial lures only.~~ [Not listed here, but still in effect from Hebgen Dam to Ennis Lake]

~~McAtee Bridge to Varney Bridge~~ (DELETED)

~~Open entire year.~~ [No need to list it here, but still open the entire year]

~~Catch and release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.~~

~~Artificial lures only.~~ [Not listed here, but still in effect from Hebgen Dam to Ennis Lake]

~~Varney Bridge to Ennis Bridge~~ (DELETED)

~~Open entire year.~~ [No need to list it here, but still open the entire year]

~~Catch and release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age or and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.~~

~~Ennis Bridge to to Ennis Lake~~ (MODIFIED)

~~Open third Saturday in May through the end of February.~~

~~Catch and release for trout, except anglers 14 years of age and may take 1 trout daily and in possession, any size.~~

~~Closed to fishing from boats/vessels~~

~~Ennis Dam to the mouth~~ (MODIFIED)

~~Open entire year.~~ [No need to list it here, but still open the entire year]

~~Northern Pike: No limit.~~